

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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August 4, 2010

To:

Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

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### **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum provides information on important deadlines as the Legislature reconvenes to complete its work before final recess adjournment, an update on actions taken by the Budget Conference Committee, and a status update on four County-advocacy measures related to: 1) wraparound services for foster youth; 2) requiring local Emergency Medical Services agencies to adhere to standards issued by the California State Emergency Medical Authority; 3) reimbursement rates for Institutes of Mental Diseases; and 4) foster youth identity theft.

# <u>Legislature Reconvenes</u>

On August 2, 2010 the Legislature returned from its summer recess. They now have until August 31, 2010 to act on any pending legislation before the final recess adjournment of the FY 2009-10 State Legislative Session. The State Constitution specifies that no bills may be passed after September 1<sup>st</sup> except for those that call for elections, provide for tax levies or appropriations, or contain urgency clauses. The Governor has until September 30, 2010 to sign or veto any bills passed by the Legislature and in his possession on or before September 1, 2010.

## **Budget Conference Committee**

On August 3, 2010, the Budget Conference Committee reconvened for the first time in nearly a month to resume its work on the State Budget. The Committee took actions on the following items of interest to the County:

- Safety Net Care Pool and South Los Angeles Preservation Fund. The Governor's January Budget proposed a 10 percent reduction to the Safety Net Care Pool and the South Los Angeles Preservation Fund, which would have resulted in a loss of \$24.4 million to Los Angeles County. The Governor also proposed a 10 percent reduction to private hospitals that receive funds through the existing Medicaid 1115 Waiver. By a vote of 6 to 3, the Budget Conference Committee rejected the Governor's proposals. This action results in no impact to the County.
- Restoration of Funding for Maternal and Child Health Programs. The Governor vetoed \$12 million in the 2009 State Budget Act from the Black Infant Health Program and the Adolescent Family Life Program. By a vote of 6 to 3, the Budget Conference Committee restored \$5.0 million in funding for these programs for FY 2010-11. The Chief Executive Office is working with the Department of Public Health to determine the amount of funding that the County would receive for this restoration.

#### Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-supported AB 1758 (Ammiano), which as amended on June 30, 2010, would remove the designation of the wraparound services program as a pilot project, and authorize all counties to provide comprehensive services to allow children to remain in a family-like setting instead of being placed into group homes, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 2, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

**County-opposed AB 2456 (Torrico),** which as amended on July 15, 2010, would require local emergency medical system agencies to adhere to standards developed by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority, including local accreditation and evaluation criteria for trainees, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's suspense file on August 2, 2010, because of potential costs to the State.

**County-supported AB 2645 (Chesbro),** which as amended on June 21, 2010, would freeze reimbursement rates for Institutes of Mental Diseases to the levels in effect on July 1, 2009, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 10 to 0 on August 2, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

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**County-supported AB 2698 (Block),** which as amended on April 19, 2010, would strengthen the procedures for requesting credit reports and handling suspected identity theft on behalf of foster youth, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 2, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:VE:sb

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
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